

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2633

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

UNCLAS USUN 4794

E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJ: TIMOR

AT REQUEST OF PORTUGUESE MISSION, SEPTEMBER 23

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY PORTUGUESE NATIONAL DECOLONIZATION
COMMITTEE, REGARDING DECOLONIZATION PROCESS IN TIMOR,
HAS BEEN ISSUED AS UNGA DOCUMENT. TEXT FOLLOWS:

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE PORTUGUESE NATIONAL DECOLONIZATION
COMMITTEE ON 23 SEPTEMBER 1975

THE NATIONAL DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE HEARD A DETAILED
EXPLANATION OF THE SITUATION IN TIMOR, GIVEN BY GOVERNOR
LEMONS PIRES AND BRIGADIER-GENERAL OLIVEIRA RODRIGUES,
WHO HAD JUST ARRIVED FROM THE FAR EAST. THE PROBLEM WAS
EXAMINED WITH ALL ITS IMPLICATIONS AND POLITICAL AND MILITARY
ASPECTS. THE CONCLUSION, ALREADY PREVIOUSLY REACHED,
THAT THE PROBLEM CAN ONLY BE RESOLVED THROUGH POLITICAL
MEANS, THATIS, THROUGH TALKS WITH ALL THE POLITICAL
PARTIES TOGETHER OR
SEPARATELY WAS CONFIRMED. IN THIS RESPECT, THE NATIONAL
DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE REAFFIRMED ONCE AGAIN THAT
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NEGOTIATIONS EXCLUSIVELY WITH ONE OF THESE GROUPS OR ANY

SOLUTION THAT DOES NOT MEET WITH THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF TIMOR ARE OUT OF THE QUESTION. THE NATIONAL DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE, UNDERLINING THE NECESSITY OF A CONSTRUCTIVE AND FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF ALL THE INTERESTED PARTIES, CHARGED THE POLITICAL PARTIES WHICH HAVE NOT YET ACTED TO CLEAR THE PATH FOR DIALOGUE, WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DELAY IN NEGOTIATIONS; SPECIFICALLY, IT PROPOSED ONE OR MORE DATES AND ONE OR MORE LOCATIONS WHICH COULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE INTERESTED PARTIES, FOR SIMULTANEOUS OR NON-SIMULTANEOUS NEGOTIATIONS TO BE HELD IN THE SAME OR IN SEPARATE LOCATIONS AND TO ABANDON THE DEMAND FOR PURELY BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. IN THIS RESPECT, WHILE THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT CONSIDER ANY EXCLUSIVELY BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS TO BE CONDUCIVE TO A VIABLE SOLUTION, IT IS FLEXIBLE AND WILLING TO ACCEPT ANY PLACE AND ANY DATE. THE NATIONAL DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE, WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THE GOOD OFFICES OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT IN FACILITATING A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF TIMOR, HOPES THAT IN THE CONTINUATION OF THESE GOOD OFFICES, IT WILL OFFER ONE OR MORE SITES WITHIN AUSTRALIAN TERRITORY IN WHICH NEGOTIATIONS CAN TAKE PLACE. IT ALSO REAFFIRMS THE COMPLETE INJUSTICE OF THE CONTINUED DETENTION OF PORTUGUESE SOLDIERS AND CIVILIANS BY THE UDT AND REGRETS THE SPECULATIONS THAT HAVE RESULTED, IN THE SENSE THAT, IN SO FAR AS THEY HAVE NOT AND CANNOT, CONSTITUTE AN EFFECTIVE PRESSURE TACTIC TO MAKE THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT DEVIATE FROM ITS RESPECT FOR THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF TIMOR, THEY NECESSARILY CAUSE CONCERN. THE NATIONAL DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE REAFFIRMED THE WILLINGNESS OF THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE TO HONOUR THE HISTORICAL AND MORAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE FOR THE PEOPLE OF TIMOR, AS LONG AS POSSIBILITIES FOR LEADING THE TERRITORY'S DECOLONIZATION PROCESS ON THE BASIS OF POLITICAL SOLUTIONS ARE ENSURED.

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